

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
ARA-10 EA-07 NEA-10 /104 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4687
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2428

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, US, SF, WA
SUBJECT: AMB MCHENRY MEETS WITH UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA

REF: (A) USUN 2330 (B) USUN 2250

1. SUMMARY: AMB MCHENRY MET JULY 27 WITH UN COMMISSIONER
FOR NAMIBIA AHTISAARI AT LATTER'S REQUEST. AHTISAARI
INDICATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM SYG WALDHEIM
TO ASSIST WESTERN FIVE BY PROVIDING WHATEVER TECHNICAL
INFORMATION FIVE NEED TO DRAW UP WESTERN FIVE PLAN FOR UN
INVOLVEMENT IN NAMIBIA. HE INDICATED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS
WERE QUITE CLEAR, LIMITING HIM TO PROVIDING ONLY TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE, AND THAT HE IS AT DISPOSAL OF FIVE. MEETING
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BETWEEN AHTISAARI AND WESTERN FIVE WAS SCHEDULED FOR LATER
IN SAME DAY (SEPTTEL). END SUMMARY.

2. AMB MCHENRY MET AM JULY 27 WITH UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA
MARTTI AHTISAARI. AHTISAARI REQUESTED MEETING WITH
MCHENRY AS FOLLOW-UP TO SYG WALDHEIM'S INSTRUCTIONS OF
JULY 21 (REFTEL A) THAT AHTISAARI ASSIST WESTERN FIVE BY

PROVIDING THEM WITH WHATEVER TECHNICAL INFORMATION THEY NEED TO FORMULATE A WESTERN FIVE PLAN FOR UN INVOLVEMENT IN NAMIBIA.

3. AT START OF MEETING AHTISAARI INDICATED THAT HE HAD RETURNED FROM VACATION AT WALDHEIM'S REQUEST IN ORDER TO BE AVAILABLE TO FIVE. HE STATED THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO WALDHEIM ONLY BRIEFLY ON PHONE AND HAD NOT HAD A CHANCE TO TALK TO HIM AT ANY LENGTH ABOUT HIS ROLE IN ASSISTING FIVE. HE FURTHER INDICATED THAT HE HAD NOT YET MENTIONED SYG'S INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA. AHTISAARI THEN PASSED TO MCHENRY COPY OF SYG'S NOTES OF FIVE'S JULY 21 MEETING WITH WALDHEIM (REFTEL A) AND ASKED HIM TO VERIFY THAT NOTES ACCURATELY REFLECTED FIVE'S INTERPRETATION OF WHAT AHTISAARI'S INVOLVEMENT IS TO BE. MEHENRY SUBSEQUENTLY INDICATED THAT NOTES WERE GENERALLY ACCURATE.

4. AHTISAARI THEN EXPLAINED THAT HE IS CONSTRAINED TO FUNCTION ONLY WITHIN THE RELATIVELY NARROW INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN HIM BY SYG (I.E., TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL INFORMATION). HE THUS COULD NOT ASSIST DIRECTLY IN DRAWING UP PLAN FOR UN INVOLVEMENT. MCHENRY REPLIED THAT FIVE UNDERSTAND LIMITS OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS AND WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE HIS ASSISTANCE TO EXTENT OF THOSE LIMITS. FIVE NEED TO GET SOME IDEA ON BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE OF WHAT KINDS

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OF UN INVOLVEMENT MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT BE PRACTICALLY FEASIBLE, AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE OF AHTISAARI AND OTHERS WITHIN SECRETARIAT WOULD BE OF GREAT HELP.

5. AHTISAARI THEN QUESTIONED WHETHER US CONTRACT STUDY ON UN INVOLVEMENT (MENTIONED IN PREVIOUS MCHENRY-AHTISAARI MEETING --REFTEL B) HAD BEEN COMPLETED. MCHENRY REPLIED THAT IT HAD, BUT THAT HE HAD SO FAR BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN GETTING CLEARANCE TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE--THE PROBLEM BEING THAT STUDY IS HIGHLY ACADEMIC AND THAT SOME ASPECTS OF IT ARE REALISTIC AND SOME ARE NOT.

6. MCHENRY THEN SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE OF GREAT HELP IF FIVE COULD MEET WITH AHTISAARI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS HIS ROLE AND TO BEGIN DISCUSSING FEASIBILITY OF VARIOUS TYPES OF UN INVOLVEMENT. AHTISAARI AGREED, AND MEETING WAS LATER SCHEDULED FOR PM SAME DAY (SEPTTEL).

7. THROUGHOUT MEETING AHTISAARI MADE CLEAR THAT JOB OF DRAWING UP PLAN FOR UN INVOLVEMENT BELONGED TO FIVE. HE FELT THAT CREATION OF SUCH A PLAN, EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD BE A WESTERN PLAN AND NOT A UN PLAN, WOULD BE HELPFUL

TO THE WESTERN FIVE INITIATIVE BECAUSE IT WOULD ENABLE ALL
TO SEE MORE CLEARLY EXTENT AND QUALITY OF UN PRESENCE
ENVISIONED. AHTISAARI ALSO INDICATED HIS PERSONAL
BELIEF THAT UN TROOPS WOULD BE NECESSARY INGREDIANT IN ANY
WIDELY-SUPPORTED SOLUTION IN NAMIBIA.

8. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION OF WHO WOULD FINANCE UN
PRESENCE IN WHATEVER FORM, MCHENRY STATED THAT WESTERN FIVE
WOULD CERTAINLY CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY BUT WOULD NOT
REPEAT NOT PAY BILL IN ITS ENTIRETY.

9. COMMENT: AHTISAARI WAS NOTICEABLY PERTURBED AT HAVING
TO FOREGO HIS VACATION (AND, IN THAT REGARD, MCHENRY MADE
CLEAR THAT FIVE HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN DECISION TO RECALL
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HIM), HOWEVER, AHTISAARI'S PROFESSIONALISM AND CONCERN FOR
NAMIBIA CLEARLY OUTWEIGH THAT PERSONAL FRUSTRATION.
AHTISAARI CONTINUED TO BE EXTREMELY ANXIOUS TO SEE INTER-
NATIONALLY-ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION ACHIEVED IN NAMIBIA, AND
FIVE ANTICIPATE HIS ASSISTANCE TO FULL EXTENT CONCEIVABLE
WITHIN LIMITS OF THE SYG'S INSTRUCTIONS. YOUNG

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